

Res 1721 commended to States for their guidance in exploration of space & principles: (1) International law, and Charter of UN, applies to outer space & celestial bodies; (2) O/S & celestial bodies are free for exploration & use of all States in conformity with law, & are not subject to national appropriation.

20 December 1961



UNGA unanimously adopted a resolution (GA Res 1721, XVIth Sess) sponsored by First Committee for peaceful uses of outer space, including following: That states launching objects into orbit or beyond to furnish information promptly to the UN Cte on the Peaceful ~~XX~~ Uses of Outer Space, thru the SG, for the registration of launchings, the SG to maintain a public registry of the information thus furnished.

On 29 December ~~1962~~ 1961 State wrote to NASA and DOD on the subject of what such registration should consist of (CIA was not consulted.)

12 Jan 1962, DOD agreed w/State that US shld take lead in reporting space objects to UN but suggested only objects in sustained orbit be registered in order to allow US freedom of action in event shld be necessary to launch a 2-or-3 orbit satellite to minimize chance of hostile interdiction. Did not agree to precise reporting sched binding on US or the furnishing of ~~names~~ for each launching to be included. NRO review(s) completed.